

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation. Whatever happened to the Fairness Doctrine?

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

I called my local Sinclair owned television station, KMWB, to voice my concerns, and my request to speak with the station manager or any other person in authority at the station was refused by the receptionist. I am officially lodging this complaint with the FCC as I feel that KMWB, and the parent company, Sinclair, are not serving the public interest and are violating the terms of their broadcasting license.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.